CUP 21 g.43/16

A Copy of Admiral RUSSEL's *Letter to the Earl of* NOTTINGHAM.

Publiſhed by Authority.

YEſterday about three in the Morning, Cape *Barfleur* bearing S. W. and by S. diſtance ſeven Leagues, my *S*couts made the *S*ignal for ſeeing the Enemy, the Wind Weſterly; The French bore down to me, and at eleven engaged me, but at ſome diſtance; we continued Fighting till half an hour paſt five in the Evening; at which time the Enemy towed away with all their Boats, and we after them; It was Calm all Day; about ſix there was a freſh Engagement to the Weſtward of me, which I ſuppoſed to be the Blue; it continued Calm all Night. I can give no particular Account of Things; but that the French were beaten, and I am now *S*teering away for *Conquet* Road, having a freſh Gale Eaſterly, but extream Foggy, I ſuppoſe that is the Place they deſign for; If it pleaſe God to ſend us a little clear Weather, I doubt not but we ſhall deſtroy their whole Fleet: I ſaw in the Night 3 or 4 *S*hips blow up, but I know not what they are, ſo ſoon as I am able to give you a more particular Relation I will not be wanting.

May 20. 1692. *Cape-Barfleur*, *S.W.* diſtance 7 Leagues.

Some Particulars of another Letter from the Fleet.

YEſterday in the gray of the Morning we made the French Fleet, in a Line of Battle, about two Leagues to Windward, they having the Weather Gage, bore down very boldly, and cloſe upon us; At 11 exactly we engaged; the Engagement was very hot, and continued ſo till near four in the Afternoon, at which time the French Fleet bore away; then the Wind was as before, at W. b. *S.* and W. *S.* VV. veering about to N. by E. and N. N. E. *Sir Clouesly Shovel*, and *Sir John Aſhby*, having the Weather Gage, fell on, and maintained the Engagement till near Ten at Night; The French all that time bearing away, and the Engliſh purſuing them; what Damage is done on either ſide is not yet known; ſome *S*hips were ſeen in Flames about nine at Night, but it is not diſcovered what they were.

Portſmouth, May 20.

SInce this Account, the *Mary* Galley is come to *Spithead* from Admiral *Ruſſel*, whom he left at 8 this Morning, about 15 Leagues *S.* and b. *W.* from the *Iſle of Wight*; He ſaw both the French Admirals ſeconds ſink, and many *S*hips on Fire; and that for two Leagues together the *S*ea was full of VVrecks of *S*hips, but doth not know of the loſs of any of Their Majeſties *S*hips, or Commanders. This Morning when he came away the French were Running, and ours in purſuit of them; and about Ten a Clock heard them engaged again, and heard the Guns till one, when the VVind ſprung up at *S.* and *S.* and by *W*

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